Re: Evaluation and assessment of Black Voting Strength
County Wide

Facts:

Presently their are 344,459 registered voters in Essex County. The registered vote by party affliation, open and independent are as follows.

158,270	Reg, Dems.
50,813	Republic
135,151	Open
225	Independants
344,459	

The entire population of Essex County is 778,206, inclusive of all men, women and children. However, the population that is eligible to vote is 558,751. Thus, the registered vote, 344,459, represents 62%. Thus 38% of the population is not registered.

In the County Exec. race only 80,233 or 24% of the registered voters (344,459) voted democratic. Newark accounted for 7% of that democratic vote. East Orange accounted for 3% of that Democratic vote. Orange accounted for 1% of that Democratic vote. Montclair accounted for 2% of the Democratic vote. Irvington accounted for 2% of that Democratic vote. Maplewood accounted for 1% of that Democratic vote.

Thus these six towns accounted for 16% of the 24% of the voters who voted Democratic. Thus the 16% represented 55,113 democratic votes out of 80,233 cast (or 68%).

However the total 18 yrs. of age and over population in these 6 towns is 301,629 and of that amount, 188,854 are registered voters leaving 112,775 persons who are not registered.

Thus, to conclude, of the 24% hard core Democratic voters (since the flip flopper democratic did not vote because of Florio's tax plan) 16 % were represented by the above six towns leaving 8% distributed throughout twenty-two other municipalities. Moreover, the number of unregistered voters is 112,775 in these six towns leaving the door open for a mass registration.

These six towns are black concentrated except for the North and East Wards of Newark, whith small pockets of whites distributed throughout the other six towns.

Therefore, if the Blacks were to organize and were also willing to spend some big bucks they could win a primary fight off the line.

Below is an example of the DEMOGRAPHICS of a Black concentrated district,

South Ward - Dist 19

In S. 19 there is a population of 1290 18 yrs. and over, which is distributed as follows.

534	Democ. Voters
9	Republic Voters
301	Open Voters
446	Unregistered
1290	(represents 18 yrs. old and over pop.)

Thus, the open and unregistered voters number 747 or 213 more then the 534 registered domocratic voters. Any plan to register and get the votes out in the district, because of its Blacks concentration, would be a lot easier since the public relations can be concentrated.

Attached hereto are the totals of registered voters by, Dem. Repub. Open and Ind.

Conclusion:

Other arguements that can be fostered are that the unregistered persons in S. 19 could be,

1. Registered republican
2. REgistered by the regular party organization
3. gotten out on election day
4. left alone and concentrate on the registered vote.
5. or target 200 of the registered voters to vote your way (also targeting other dists.)

However, because of the Black concentration it is easier for the district to be cohesive instead of divided.

Moreover, the other 14 municipalities represent 46% of the registered voters. Thus, six towns with concentrated populations that share many common practices can easily be influenced into a voting pattern.

We also know from previous experience that the blacks in these black concentrations will vote black i.e.....

Donald Payne Vs: Ralph Grant, Donald was the acceptable Black while Grant was not and lost by a very large plurality. However, any opposing black candidate on the Democratic line could and probably would receive a solid white vote. However, once polarized the community would have a difficult time in getting back together. Therefore it is reasonable to assume that a fragmented black note and a solid white vote should be able to win any primary election. Yet, should the blacks register in those six towns i.e... 4 to 5 thousand new voters then they would have a better shot at winning the primary.

In any case there would be a split and the Democratic Party could suffer a loss to Republicans in the fall.

The ramifications of a split vote can be one difficult situation in any future election and the break manifesting itself on the Freeholder Board.

Thus because of the sensitivity of the situation ~~MAY~~ Reconciliation would be to try to avoid any split in the Democratic Party at any cost.

Additional Thoughts

The 6 municipalities above represent 54% of the registered vote, but did in the County Executive race produced 44,896 democratic votes or 56% of the 80,233 democratic vote cast. Their (6 communties) tendency is to vote democratic and if participation was increased, the 56% could be increased to 60%.